

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /031 W

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R 201016Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8586

INFO USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJ: VISIT OF DUTCH TOURISTS TO US

REF: A. THE HAGUE 2568; B. STATE 121336

SUMMARY: PROMISING POLITICAL STUDY TOUR PROJECT PICKS UP MOMENTUM, IS SET FOR OCTOBER 2-15. LEADING DUTCH OPIONION MOLDER ASKS ASSISTANCE IN PREPARING LATE JULY EARLY AUGUST RECONNAISSANCE IN US TO LINE UP APPOINTMENTS AND ESTABLISH PROGRAM AND ITINERARY. LEADING DUTCH DAILY IS UNDERWRITING PROJECT. PROCEDURAL GUIDANCE FROM DEPT REQUESTED. END SUMMARY.

1. THE POLITICAL STUDY GROUP PRJLECT INVOLVED IN THE REFS IS BEGINNING TO MOVE AND HAS ESCALATED A BIT. DATE FOR THE TRIP IS TENTATIVELY FIXED FOR OCTOBER 2-15 AND TOCOVER AT LEAST WASHINGTON, NEW YORK AND BOSTON.

2. G.B. J. HILTERMANN, A LEADING DUTCH JOURNALIST HAS AGREED TO LEAD THE GROUP AND IT WILL GROW (THEY ANTICIPATE) TO SOME 75 OR 80 PERSONS. HILTERMANN PLANS A RECONNAISSANCE TO PREPARE THE TRIP AND COULD TRAVEL IN THE LAST WEEK OF JULY A/O FIRST IN AUGUST. HE IS WELL KNOWN IN THE US, TO MANY IMPORTANT PEOPLE, BUT REALIZES THIS MAY NOT BE IDEAL TIME FOR SUCH A TRIP.

3. DE TELEGRAAF, THE LARGEST (BY FAR) DUTCH DAILY, OF AMSTERDAM,

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IS UNDERWRITING THE PROJECT AND WILL PUBLISH HILTERMANN'S

ACCOUNTS OF WHAT THE GROUP SEES AND EXPERIENCES.

4. HE ASKS IF DEPARTMENT CAN ASCERTAIN FEASIBILITY OF MEETINGS AT THIS TIME WITH THESE PROPOSED INSTITUTIONS AND PERSONS:

A. DEPARTMENT: HE SHOULD TALK TO SOMEONE WHO WILL HANDLE THE OCTOBER BRIEFING. HILTERMANN IS A GOOD FRIEND OF THE EMINENT DUTCHMAN ERNST VAN DER BEUGEL, FORMER STATE SECRETARY IN MFA, FORMER CHAIRMAN OF KLM, AND NOW LEIDEN UNIV. PROFESSOR, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY BILDERBEFG CONFERENCE AND CHAIRMAN OF INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STRATEGIC STUDIES.

B. HEW: HE WISHES TO BRING THE GROUP IN OCTOBER FOR A GOOD BRIEFING AT HEW ON SUCH MATTERS AS SOCIAL SECURITY IN THE US FOR, AS HE CORRECTLY SAYS, MANY HERE THINK THERE IS NO SUCH THING IN THE US AND THAT IT EXISTS ONLY IN EUROPE.

C. DUMBARTON OAKS: HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE FORMER AMBASSADOR (TO THE NETHERLANDS) WILLIAM TYLER, AND HOPES TO SHOW THE GROUP DUMBARTON OAKS AND THE GEORGETOWN ENVIRONMENT.

D. DOD: HE IS OLD FRIEND OF SECRETARY OF NAVY J.W. MIDDENDORF AND HOPES TO CALL ON HIM.

E. SUPREME COURT: HE KNOWS THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND WOULD LIKE TO CALL.

F. HARVARD UNIVERSITY: HE KNOWS PROF. MILTON KATZ AND WISHES TO SEE HIM IS POSSIBLE, TO ARRANGE OCTOBER VISIT. HE WOULD ALSO LIKE A SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT WITH M.I.T.

G. NEW YORK: HE WOULD LIKE TO CALL ON BOTH ROCKEFELLER AND FORD FOUNDATIONS TO ARRANGE OCTOBER VISITS AND SIMILARLY ON DAVID ROCKEFELLER OF CHASE MANHATTAN, WHOM HE HAS MET BUT DOES NOT KNOW INTIMATELY.

5. HILTERMANN IS A LEADING POLITICAL COMMENTATOR IN THIS COUNTRY, WELL CONNECTED, AND A STALWART SUPPORTER OF THE US. HE REGARDS HIMSELF AS AN INFLUENTIAL MOLDER OF OPINION.

6. A PROCEDURAL NOTE: THE EMBASSY HAS NOT ADDRESSED THIS PROJECT TO VOLUNTARY VISITORS, WHERE IT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED TO PROPERLY BELONG. IT DID NOT BECAUSE OF THE TRAVEL OR TOUR FACET IT INDUBITABLY POSSESSES. ON THE OTHER HAND THE FACT THAT MR. HILTERMANN IS INVOLVED WEIGHS HEAVILY FOR VOLUNTARY VISITOR HANDLING, FOR WHILE THE "TRAVELERS" MIGHT NOT RATE SPECIAL HANDLING IN THE VOLUNTARY VISITOR LEXICON, HILTERMANN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DOES AND MORE. HE WRITES A WIDELY READ AND INFLUENTIAL COLUMN IN THE NATIONS LARGEST DAILY, AND HIS TELEVISION AND RADIO AUDIENCE IS NUMBERED IN MILLIONS. THE FOURTH OF JULY ESSAY HE GAVE ON THE BICENTENNIAL WAS A WARM AND ELOQUENT ENDORSEMENT OF THE US. THE EMBASSY WOULD WELCOME PROCEDURAL GUIDANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT IN LIGHT OF THE SUBSTANTIVE IMPORTANCE OF THIS PROJECT. THE MERE FACT THAT DE TELEGRAAF IS UNDERWRITING IT SPEAKS TO THAT POINT.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING AGENDA, ITINERARY, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976THEHA03912  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760278-1071  
**From:** THE HAGUE  
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**Line Count:** 116  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 THE HAGUE 2568, 76 STATE 121336  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 MAY 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <27 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISIT OF DUTCH TOURISTS TO US  
**TAGS:** ETRD, NL, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006